

NOTES FROM OPEN SPACE DISCUSSION at FORUMS ON CAREERS IN THE ARTS FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SPOKANE, SEPTEMBER 24, 2003

Topic: How can visual art and theater come together to make a difference in Spokane?

Partnerships with Coalition of Responsible Disabled and Express Theater Northwest.
Five year plan to build a new building on land in the west Central neighborhood.
Building will house 200 seat theater and the offices for CORD and an art gallery.
The project will be funded by foundations, banks, and donations. The plan is to hire a grant writer within the next year.
The art gallery will have its own sound system and lighting and display cases.
The theater will have its own shop and be completely wheelchair accessible with new technologies such as audio description.

Topic: How can musicians gain venue access and keep the job?

Transportation to the stage area
Equipment load in and out – assistance
Golf carts with garden carts at parks events
Liability issues
Organization – check out the insurance agency for nonprofits
Advocacy campaign
Link with other agencies
National link with Americans for the Arts
American Symphony Orchestra League
Getting laws enforced (Department of L&I)
Create a ‘carrot’ for venues to do the right thing
How to encourage club owners (employers/purchasers) to do the right thing
Arts Advocates to support good employers
Network
VSA – make a directory to include clubs that have good accessibility
Survey musicians to find good employers
VSA could provide free ads for good employers
Web site for reporting unsafe or inaccessible working environment
Federal monies – require accessibility to parks and government properties
Support clubs that are accessible
Disabilities agencies support artists with disabilities and employers that provide good working environment
(Note: talk to St. Luke’s recreation therapists)
Agencies to provide training for lobbying and legislative efforts

Washington Lawyers for the Arts

Clear next steps

- 1) Get to know VSA better
- 2) Connect with Washington Lawyers for the Arts
- 3) Find other allies
- 4) Evaluate local worksites
- 5) Develop a survey for stage access
- 6) Create artists/worker advocacy group: Union +Artists Trust + VSA

Suggestion topics for various conferences – anyone who could become an advocate

Who else is it an issue for?

Contacts for financial assistance

Buffy Saint Marie

Bonnie Raitt

Allen Foundation

Foundations that work for disability organizations

Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation

Christopher Reeves

TOPIC: How to make theater more enjoyable and make jobs more available to people in the community with disabilities?

Create more opportunities for children to help with behind the scenes, etc.

Identify the many different jobs: such as backstage, onstage, PR, etc.

Be able to have guest artists and exchange different arts of administrative jobs

Improve the environment backstage by adding backstage activities

Improve communications back stage with a monitoring system

List of volunteer opportunities to enhance work resumes

Offer independent study opportunities in theater to earn credit

Have the chef's college donate dishes for parties

Have an open house to teach about the theater and what happens on stage and backstage

Have a review competition

Have art students design costumes and sets

Teach creative writing classes to write one act plays

Have kids in schools teach kids that it is OK to have a disability.

TOPIC: Where to find money/funding/resources for schooling and training as well as the art?

Arts support organizations

Express Theater Northwest

Parks and Recreation

Extended Learning Center

Resources: list of schools, scholarships, classes. Maybe Patti Rosser could do this

Individuals/patrons

Selling work

Website

Local family/community foundations
Fundraisers – associated with existing arts events and links to websites
Corporate grants
Arts Commission
% for art gigs for people with disabilities
“scene” coordination
Get the word out
Network of support
Rehabilitation Facility with adaptive equipment - that exists now
Coordinated list of artists with disabilities
VSAW Directory of artists with disabilities
List of organizations to get information
ARC of Spokane variety show
“Share the pie”
VSA disseminate information to ARC, DDD, Health Physical Advisory Council,
Legislature
VSAW is a resource – contact Mdavis2@esd.wa.gov
No Boundaries and other exhibit opportunities
Jobs – listing of those who hire people with disabilities
Classes
Network
Get politically active
Donate art to support organizations that support you

TOPIC: How can the WSAC be more responsible to the needs of artists with disabilities?

Compile self-describing statistics on all applications and evaluations.
Spell out non-discrimination policy uniformly and visibly on all applications and evaluations.
Provide education to our applicants so they can insure accessibility. Use web site links to VSA, ADA and local projects like Project FUN (a free service that assesses the accessibility of facilities). Where can staff people get training in customer service focusing on audiences and artists with disabilities?
Provide a granting avenue for individuals, projects and organizations that focus on artists with disabilities.
Distribute arts information of special interest to artists with disabilities for those working with such artists to atypical ‘arts’ locations – Pre Voc, DVR, rehab centers, ARC, DD and mental health facilities, etc.

TOPIC: Building bridges between established art communities and artists with disabilities (Finding or establishing venues for displaying, workshop for creativity, places for individuals to come together.)

Connect with Frank Sullivan who is on the Spokane Arts Commission
October is Disability Awareness Month

Have the No Boundaries traveling art show come in October – talk is to have it in the Chase Gallery

VSA Arts art classes meets Tuesday and Thursdays for 2 hours at Centerpointe. The cost is \$64; Parks and recreation will give scholarship for half the cost of the class and VSA Arts will cover the other half.

How to overcome the barrier between the established art community and those artists with disabilities: It's all based on education and getting out in the public

Help Spokane expand art interest beyond Western art.

Places to get art exposed: DisAbility Fest, Art Walk (October 3)-we need to participate, First Night on New Year's Eve

Have a discussion with: Inlander, Daily Planet, Voice in Spokane, TV calendar: These are places to advertise art

Build a database for artists to use: -local, regional, state – this is a dream for VSA

Collaborate with art galleries to sponsor shows as group

Places to show art: River Park Square, STA Plaza, Art at Work – Museum of Art and Culture

Northtown Mall

Valley Mall

Purple Birch-Colville

Liberty Café

Borders

Fairs

Mix of artists for art show

Juried art show

Riveridge Art Group

Market Street/Hillyard

Market Place on Washington

First Night Spokane

Garland District

Perry Street Fair

Art on the Green

Art Fest

East Central

Spokane Valley Fest

Colville

It often starts with being at the right place at the right time

VSA Arts wants to have an after school art program for kids

Express Northwest Theater wants to have a gallery in their building which they plan on building in 3-5 years

There was talk of creating a support group

Photographers

Writers

Support groups help: enhance motor skills, creativity, self-esteem

Producing art: builds self-esteem, expresses better than verbally

Use universal signs: wheelchair, ASL interpreters, white cane

Project FUN! – Friendly, Universal, No Barriers

Measuring entertainment venues for accessibility issues
Sad to hear that Spokane is not an art town. Not true!
Web site for VSA
Local artists tie into arts: spokanearts.org
Create a guild for artists like a support group
Call Patti Rosser with ideas of artists to build a guild.

TOPIC: Where are there resources and grants for artists with/without disabilities?

Musicians Union

Covers Wenatchee to Coeur d'Alene

Musician referral

Negotiate adequate compensation

RIMPTF (recording industries musician's performing trust fund)

Bitsy-WSAC

Spokane Arts Commission

Deer Park Arts Commission

CREATE in Newport

Arts Northwest VSA Arts of Spokane

Aunties Bookstore –Chris

Richard Hugo House – information for writers www.richardhugohouse.org

Dan Maher –KPBX “Inland Folk”

Victory Music

North American Folk Music and Dance Alliance www.folk.org

Washington Lawyers for the Arts

www.access.wa.gov

Charitable Trust Division of Secretary of State's office for nonprofit corporation
Information

City Parks and Recreation – Alice Rush

Spokane Arts School

Corbin Art Center

Library Division

Ronald McDonald House

Inland Northwest Health Service Foundation

Washington State Arts Commission

TOPIC: Learning about what resources and support organizations are available to freelance writers. Gary Remington convener. Did not meet.

TOPIC: How to help people with brain injuries to become more fully integrated within society using the arts. Gary Remington convener. Did not meet.

TOPIC: Brainstorming on bringing more accessible technologies in performance art to

Spokane. Frank Sullivan convener. Did not meet.

TOPIC: VSA in Spokane; what should be our role? Dan Schmitt convener.
Did not meet.

Seattle, September 25, 2003

TOPIC: Using art to encourage others and for healing and revealing pen-up emotions

Debbie Thorsos convener.

Art Music Dancing

Take part in society

Give purpose

Encourage people, sing with them and other things

Help to release pent-up emotions through words, music arts

Help mind to focus on the creative pursuit

Can paint your feeling out

They need to understand me: other people understand songs and sign language

English, Spanish, sign Japanese, mermaid, Finnish.....encourage us

Play, books, create for young kids, like mermaids, Beauty and the Beast, Alladin and Cinderella

TOPIC: Why aren't there more artists with disabilities and why aren't they here? Convened by Charlene Curtiss combined with
What kinds of foundation changes do we need to implement to support careers in the arts...i.e. in college, high school, transition programs, etc.

Mobility issues

Care-giver support

Question to DVR: Is there current support for arts as a livelihood? Other parts of the state are willing; we need to get them all linked together.

What about a separate or joint registry for artists?

Society doesn't seem to appreciate art in general

Community access – achieved on campus in program at Highline. Used to be divided into support, competitive, and community access employment; now joined

People get dollars from the Access program

California models are great examples

Buffer up lobbying effort – work to cooperate between resources and needs

What about 'credentials' declared to possibility of livelihood – card

Problem with credibility of financial stability

Craig's personal experience participating was extremely enjoyable to him

Starts with the parents and IEP – Individual Education Plan
 Creative ‘space’ opens learning
 For example, Whistlestop Dance Company models teaching required curriculum through Dance
 If more artists knew about us, they’d be here
 Many community groups are active – Kent Community is growing integrated system
 Idea: Clearinghouse online resource
 Education
 Performance/media specific
 Organizational resources
 Possible partner organization
 Accessible performances
 Events calendar
 What can VSAW do?
 Steering committee
 More frequent meetings like this one
 If WSAC, then statewide and inclusive
 Art fairs good opportunity to get inclusive art out there
 Seek sponsors, like folks sponsor sports
 “Arts Guys” of Texas
 Get the whole community involved
 Radio, internet, word of mouth, catalogues
 Traditionally, class leaders advertising families #s 750 in Snohomish county
 supported by County – a guess at least 20% are interested in the arts
 Web-Brain makes connections on the same topic
 Artists Unlimited in Snohomish County is a long-standing example
 Idaho: Art donations to a calendar, for fundraising purposes
 List serve A I

TOPIC: What resources already work to help promote and market artists with disabilities? What information is needed for a promotional packet?

Websites:

1. Artist Trust www.artisttrust.org
 Provides information about galleries across state
2. Washington State Arts Commission www.arts.wa.gov
 Bitsy Bidwell bitsyb@arts.wa.gov Able to provide information about LOTS of resources for artists and their support team. Also, able to provide workshops for \$100.00 on the following (not an exclusive list) – writing grants, finding grants, how to start a non-profit group, fundraising, etc.
3. Gatherinplace.org Port Townsend Gallery
 provides gallery space for artists with disabilities , contact Lisa or Linda
4. www.artsresourcenetwork.org Provides information for all artists
5. www.fdncenter.org Provides information about foundations including those

that would support artists with disabilities or programs for them. Helpful when looking for financial backing for individuals or groups.

6. www.jackstraw.org Provides information and some financial backing for individual that have interests in various sound mediums. For example, writers that want to put their work to music, musicians, composers, etc.
7. www.richardhugohouse.org Provides resource for literary artists. Might find some financial help.
8. www.krecords.com Indy recording label in Olympia
9. www.artsnw.org Help with regional bookings regarding performing arts. Covers Idaho, Oregon and Washington. The next booking conference is in October in Boise.
10. www.photonica.com Located in New York. Have agents to help photographers (maybe other art medias)
11. Arts Corps is an organization that support children and the arts by linking the children with professional artists.

There are art show opportunities in Olympia – Art Walk and other galleries

Bellevue – Bellevue Arts Commission

Everett- Snohomish County Arts Council, there is also a gallery that features the art of individual with disabilities

Contact dance studios and ask them to consider providing scholarships

There is still a need to find monies to continue financial support for the transportation of Individuals with disabilities to get to and from art events

To help a group of individuals form a nonprofit organization, first contact the King County Bar Association at www.kcba.org , then click on Young Lawyers Division, then on Publications. The first publication is “How to Form and Maintain a Nonprofit Corporation in Washington State” and is available to download or purchase for \$5

What’s needed to promote an artist?

1. The best quality example of current work. When sending a slide send first generation copy from the original, but keep the original safe
2. The best copy available of a video, suggest 10 minutes if performing arts
3. Resume that includes where did the person learn art, their training, where the person has performed or shown work, copies of any press releases or coverage.
4. Artist statement: what is that artist doing with their work. For samples of artist statement search the web under ‘artist statements’

Marketing and Promotion ideas:

Create a website

Create links to other people’s websites

Churches

Yellow pages

Ask large corporations for support One NO is one step closer to a YES

Hallmark – think big

Set up your own gallery showings

It is important to have a marketing and promotion support person

For visual artists, contact companies that make children’s books; send publishers a

promotional packet
Good idea: join art clubs and continue to build a network of interested people
For visual artists: Remember to present work in a professional manner. Having art matted helps a lot when promoting the artist. Be creative with framing
Copyright laws to be aware of:
Always put © along with artist's name and date created on the front of all pieces
Festival Directory – written on quarterly basis. Directory of all Northwest festivals.
There is a cost for this directory but it can be found in libraries
Look into Visual Artists Rights Act (VARA) that defines rights of visual artists.

TOPIC: My concerns

I am concerned about people with hidden disabilities such as learning disabilities and traumatic brain injury. These individuals may have the reading skills and talent but often have memory and organizational problems. They need to be provided with software and other means of accommodations. I think that it is easier to think of what is available and needs to be done for those with sensory and physical disabilities; we need to explore and provide technical assistance for those with memory and organizational deficits. Some of these may be: palm pilot, calendar systems with reminders in computers, times and reminder alarms in the work area, software such as Co-writer and Write Outloud, etc.

We need more incentives for employers in the community to hire disabled individuals. The State should pay part of the wages of the employee who cannot accomplish as much work as those who are not disabled. The businesses cannot afford a loss.

TOPIC: Create a group to express the stories of our lives

We told brief stories of our lives. If people are interested in sharing stories in a group, please contact Jeanette Murphy at jeanette@wccd.org

TOPIC: Clara Link

Clara Link, an award-winning photographer and artist is known to have “the eye” when it comes to capturing the beauty of life. Clara's work can be seen in the popular book, ***Just As I AM: Americans with Disabilities***. Clara also takes photographs for local and national conventions, self-advocacy publications and special events such as weddings. Her most recent accomplishments include a “Living It Up! Calendar for the Down Syndrome Community. Clara Link, a great lover of life, stands as a proud American with a disability and most of all, a truly exceptional photographer. You may contact:

CLARA LINK PHOTOGRAPHY
1118 S 142nd Street, Suite A
Tacoma WA 98444
Go to website: www.p2ppower.org

TOPIC: Support

I would like to see more support from both the community and social service organizations for persons who are seeking a career in the arts: writing, acting, music, dance, painting/sculpture etc.

TOPIC: What can VSAAW do to help? During the end of the session this was amended to say What can VSAAE, WSAC, CDA, WCCD, Artist Trust, and Cornish College do to help?

Dan Schmitt, VSAAW, convener

Attending: Heather Helbach-Olds, Artist Trust; Mayumi Tsutakawa, WSAC; Jeanette Murphy, WCCD; Doreen Mitchum, Cultural Development Authority; George Luis Sedano, Cornish College of the Arts

What we are already doing (list prepared before discussion)-

Classes- VSA arts Community Classes, Network, and Artists Unlimited Studio

Exhibits - a continuum - student, invitational, and juried

Some success in making \$ for the artists

Directory of Artists with Disabilities - not current

(Participants seemed to agree that this resource should be updated, perhaps along with an updated directory of artists of color.

Collaboration/and/or learning from the experience of WESTAF in trying to put together a touring artist roster. Possible collaboration between VSAAW, WSAC, WCCD, CDA, and Artist Trust was discussed. "Needed but no money." was a comment)

Training - (historically) training workshops for WSAC Artists in Residence, workshops for artists with disabilities to apply to WSAC to be AIRs, a mentorship program for artists with disabilities chosen to be on the WSAC roster, grantwriting and fundraising workshops, and training for artist/instructors

Employment - VSAAW has hired artists w/ disabilities to teach, perform, demonstrate, consult on curriculae/curriculum(sic), write, train at access workshops, survey cultural facilities for ADAAG compliance, and as staff.

Suggestions from participants

VSAAW could convene (or be part of a group that convened) an arts conference about access or do workshops within larger conferences.

Question was raised

How to get people to care/see the need to participate in such training?

One suggestion - a letter to the WASC Access Committee - major arts commissions in state should come out with a common statement re. access for programs they fund. NEA requires access of programs it funds. KCAC and SAC include requirements in contract with grant recipients.

"Compliance is important to artists as well as audiences."

Invite Brom Wikstrom and other artists with disabilities to be panelists
board, advisory committees, etc.

Artists in general need to do this. Get involved in neighborhoods, cities, etc.

Link with WCCD and other disability orgs to advertise openings in boards,
panels, etc.

People with disabilities enrich arts organizations they are a part of (as
staff, board, advisors, etc.)

VSAAW (or collaborators) should provide introductory workshops on how to be
on a panel, how to be on a board, how to apply for public arts
commissions/projects

Ways to employ/train people with dis. as administrators: WCCD apprenticeship,
NEA arts admin. internship training project

The people who came to this meeting agreed to continue the discussion as an
ad hoc access to the arts committee (A2A?)

We will next meet on Friday, November 7 at noon for a brown bag lunch at
the offices of WCCD at the Good Shepherd Center, 4649 Sunnyside Ave. N.,
#100, Seattle, WA 98103

Agenda

Work plan for directory

Update on access compliance

Leadership development

Linking

Others that were suggested as people who should be on this ad hoc committee
someone from SAC

Charlene or other WSAC Commissioner

Others?

VANCOUVER, September 26, 2003

**TOPIC: Is there any study of how the arts impact people in chronic
pain? What does it look like? How delivered? What are the
perspectives? How funded?**

Occupational Therapists

Volunteer to play music in hospitals

Volunteer to play in nursing homes

Americans for the Arts (national org.) has interest area on Arts and Healing

Reiki

Recitation of poetry and scripture

Insurances now covering alternative therapies

Medicare and Medicaid should pay for this

Need an advocacy effort

Physical, emotional, spiritual collage, yoga, research grant at OHSU

How to fund is the problem

Ask for music preferences at the dentist – Gentech in Vancouver

Smiles for healing
Flowers also help heal
Touch and contact heal
Outcome we are looking at is healing, but other outcomes are expression,
diagnosis, or just fun and entertainment
Hospice –thanatologists play music to make transitions; music people ‘read’
the patient and play the right music, move with them
Brain scan technology matched the music
Chronic pain and mental health are helped by music
Non-impact aerobics
Purdy prison – Girl Scouts meet mothers and sing together – very healing
In teaching – some teach by talking, some by doing
Color can be read as a symptom and used for diagnosis
Smell is most primal sense – that’s why aromatherapy works
Light spectrums have impact – full spectrum lights are best
photic stimulation
A list of people who practice these things or can provide training would be good
Start with doctor training programs- share our stories
A book of success stories would be great of artists with disabilities
Use the arts to educate
Don’t use disability to sell the art – the art should be good
VSA and National Endowment for the Arts are resources
Independent living center are potential partners – have space for
activities

TOPIC: What can VSAAW do to help and how to do outreach?

Note: This conversation eventually included ideas for things local folks (esp. DARSW)
could do

Promotion ideas
KBOO –Paul’s show
Contact Portland radio stations, Willamette work (artsy rag) about VSAAW programs
Problem – Vancouverites attitude toward Portland – might be hard to get services to
go from North to South
Solution – offer programs in Vancouver – Portland folks don’t have the same
attitude about Vancouver
Programs needed to address problems of isolation and depression
Get VSAAW’s name out (not Vancouver School for the Arts and Academics)
More ideas for Vancouver programs
Program events near bus lines (H2O center isn’t on bus line) and when buses are coming
We need another art room at the DARSW. Maybe try the schools
Help artists with promo packs/portfolios – professional development
“Art on the Borderline”
Complain about bus access to the H2O Center (note to self)
Other possible art spaces – churches, the Y (but they are charging money)
Neighborhood associations, granges libraries, PUD buildings, free unless there is food

involved
Foundations for SW Washington only, there are 2 and they both have strong art component
Community Foundation and SWIFT
Look at partnerships
Matting and framing

**TOPIC: How can we create more community awareness and networking/partnerships for inclusive arts based programs and careers? Combined with
How do we get more participation by disabled persons in art events such as going to the theater plays? Attendance = Awareness = Accessibility**

Education/Community Arts/Entertainment Fair
Programs:

- Craft fairs/bazaars
- Cooking fairs for challenged citizens
- Resource/senior/after school arts classes offered through city centers
 - City art walks including art of artists with disabilities
 - City fairs including inclusive arts-based entertainment
 - City productions that address disability awareness and needs so participation can happen
 - Disability resource festivals/fairs that bring in the greater community for inclusion and education
- Arts program through neighborhood associations – public murals, Installations, etc.

Networks:

- Web page inner-city and statewide
- Collaboration of web communication in multi-format mode – web of resources
- Partnerships for web collaboration – i.e. VSA, WSAC colleges, schools, hospitals, community centers
- Multi-media info for reaching disabled community – newspaper, radio, internet
- Library of resources and contacts
- Innovative pooling of resources to create new ways to put monies/resources together to accomplish visions

Reaching and providing for needs of people with disabilities:

- Arts opportunities need to be provided in early years and throughout school years
 - For ALL youth so that they can not only learn through visual, musical, spatial and kinesthetic avenues, but ALL students can explore creative interests and passions and be aware of artistic careers in the arts

Careers counselors need to be open to supporting students with interest in the arts – disabled or not

Arts as healing program in hospitals/rehabilitation programs...and then as avenues for future work if interested

Thinking of how arts interests can be integrated into work in areas like tourism, libraries, service organizations, etc.

It seems that networking/collaborating/creating partnerships seems to be the key to much of the direction we all felt is needed to move our culture forward into a more inclusive and welcoming environment

TOPIC: Cacy Lee Comments

Start where you are at and go from there

Self-acceptance

Social skills

Live in the moment

Take risks

Network

Write down desires, brainstorming

Start where you are at

Do what you can with what you have

You are never too old!

TOPIC: Combined issues:

Need to create opportunities for shows, galleries, etc. Who can help us with grant writing? How can the state and local organizations connect and support us? Transportation? Format for material? Where can funding be obtained for materials, advertising, etc (start up)? Resources for low-income folks for developing promotional materials – portfolios or tape?

Community concerts/events often sponsored by Musician Trust Fund....encourage disabled to audition.

Grantswriting resources: Bitsy Bidwell bitsyb@arts.wa.gov does 4 hour workshops

Lots of information on the web. Do a Google search for grant writing.

Don't forget your libraries, and if you have a WA State library card you can go to the hospital and do medical research

Resources: www.artsresources.net, www.artisttrust.org, vocational rehab.

Get legislation for a fund where tax payers can donate on their tax form for disabled/arts/sports

Facilities and resource center

Ethnic communities

Transportation: Think about how people with disabilities will get to an event...is it accessible by bus? Full access needed. Network for ride sharing needed.

Music Trust Fund

Transportation for musical instruments and support for entertainment – many stages are not accessible from the backstage areas so performers with disabilities can't get there.

Granny Foundation – aging musicians, NARAS – National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences

There is a need for blind judging processes for auditions because blind artists

cannot site read music
Verbal grant applications are possible at WSAC
Exhibits at YWCA in Vancouver, City Library, private galleries

TOPIC: Many people of disabilities are used to being “limited” – not realizing their own potential. Sandy Straub convener Combined with
We need to educate the public to accept people for who they are and look past the disability. How can we best do this? Maurene convener

Takes a new mental approach if still “living” their disability
Keep stable so you can have a life
Hard to beyond the disability
Taking care of yourself
No need to define yourself in terms of your disability – it’s private
A person should not be judged by only their disability or any other single thing
Personal boundaries
Use art to express your boundaries
Use art to express the emotions of the violations of those boundaries
People First
Curiosity is natural but respect should also be natural
Education is needed for the public
Art helps to express yourself
How about being polite?
How about making the first step and saying hello
Look for the person inside
Column in the newspaper on disability awareness
This is the disorder and this is how to approach
The person who has a disability putting others at ease
Make a major change – eliminate those who have hurt you
Don’t be around them
Be peaceful

TOPIC: Helping individuals find their talents in the art fields.

This is a combination of:

Helping individuals find the artistic side of themselves to pursue a career in the arts; how can they find their talents? Where are the programs? Jolene convener

Differnet forms of art should be encouraged; i.e. dance movement, music, puppetry, drum circle, poetry, story writing and telling, etc. Jim convener

How can we get more inclusive arts opportunities and training into school programs pre-Kindergarten through 12 and college? Shariana convener

Kids – lunch buddies in schools, a friend
Fort Vancouver Lions Club, use programs in existence
Kiwanis summer camp
Get them to try
Rotary, Elks, Big Brothers/Sister programs, Moose Lodge
Get grants or funding
Mentoring programs
Dennis Campbell – he adapts tools
How to adapt tools for art: catalogs, call them, ask different places
Art is messy
Nursing home – Activity Directors, get them involved
Poetry and Stories
Getting able bodies together with disabled
Overcome barriers that we cannot do this:
 Head wand, or able bodied/disabled doing art together
Different forms of art should be encouraged
Marketing all of these – theater, making puppets, drum circle
 Do be inclusive
 Have the disabled community learning from different disabilities growing and
 learning together
Disability awareness classes in schools
Education, Education, Education
Give space to those with disabilities, or let disabled and others be part of the
 Community

Closing Circle Final Comments, Things Learned, Aha! Moments:

To ask people more about their dreams and what they want to do with their lives
 and jobs.
The sessions at noon were probably best.
I seen today that I need to try harder to find myself and my artistic abilities.
It was nice to take a day away from reacting to crisis, and to be creative with
 like-minded people who want to see opportunities in the arts develop for
 people with disabilities.
Look....See.... People First! Diverse abilities and visions blend into new colors, shapes
 and textures.
Connections.
I learned a lot. I didn't know there was even a Washington State Arts Commission
We all have gifts. Ah hah moment...harp music to help with the final moments of life.
 The arts are powerful until our last breath is taken
Peer interaction, level playing field, when its over its over.
Today...what a power workshop. Thank you for enlightening me. "To leave footprints
 in the arts for challenged citizens...what better light could be shed for humanity
 than the spirit of enabled passions that its was."
Glad to know of the great support and resources in Washington for the arts.
People with multiple disabilities who are also blind have a very hard time getting

services. Systems are not set up well for them. Vancouver folks might not go to our programs if they are offered in Portland. Portland residents might not have the same attitude coming the other direction.

Disabled or Abled we are all brothers and sisters that live with one another. God created us all.

Joy and Inspiration.

Inclusion (is) can be fun!

Dog water bowl, transportation by bus to sites, 14 people stayed all day.

It's time to get out of my box and into my ART.